

**PROPOSAL 46**

**5 AAC 64.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish.**

Allow snagging as a legal method for sockeye salmon in Kodiak Island freshwaters as follows:

Sockeye salmon may be legally harvested while hooked anywhere in the body in Kodiak Island freshwaters.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Snagged or foul hooked Sockeye and mortality rates is what I would like to address. There is a huge problem here. Sockeye don't bite very well, so they are flossed, lined in the corner of the jaw with any fly or bare hook and lead weight. It takes real skill to line fish legally fair hooked in the mouth. Most folks are terrible at it. They snag fish everywhere in the body except the mouth. I have seen a person snag 20 sockeye to get 2 legal ones. The snagged ones are grossly abused, snagged in the belly ALOT, YARDED IN AND ROLLED AND STOMPED AROUND AND KICKED BACK INTO THE WATER. Many don't make it to spawn with a gut wound from a hook. It is a major negative balance of molesting fish to try and legally harvest a bag limit. I firmly believe less fish would die and more would spawn and people would also harvest more all at the same time, if a sockeye could be legally harvested hooked anywhere in the body. People would catch their limit, get in and get out. Everyone wins.

**PROPOSED BY:** Stig Yngve

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